

“Building Partnerships – Education, Community, Careers”

2006 CTE Summer Conference Lauded as Best Ever

This year’s statewide Career and Technical Education (CTE) Conference was held in Louisville from July 16-19 at the Galt House Hotels. Jointly sponsored by the Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education (KACTE), Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), Division of Career and Technical Education (KDE) and the Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE), the conference hosted 194 workshops, sessions and presentations covering all program areas and all levels of Kentucky CTE.

The Honorable Virginia G. Fox, Education Cabinet secretary, welcomed participants during the opening session of this year’s conference.



“This event and others like it allow you to re-energize, charge your batteries, if you will, in time for the new school year. Even though it is your job to teach others, part of being an educator involves learning as well. You never cease to stop learning even as you teach,” said Secretary Fox to an audience of more than 1,500 CTE educators, administrators, coordinators, counselors and support staff. “But, it is the finished product at the end of the day that makes all our hard work worth the effort. It is what we make that helps define ourselves.”

“The overriding value of providing those within an organization the opportunity to grow professionally is, in effect, a plan to bring experience, knowledge, and skill to help yield successful results in moving a system forward. It is our hope that this year’s conference provided something for everyone as well as a renewed sense of excitement for this upcoming year,” says OCTE Executive Director David Billingsley. “With the impending SACS accreditation visit, the conference provided us with an occasion to meet with our principals to address where the system is in the overall process of continuous improvement and ready ourselves to become the first career and technical education district in the nation to earn SACS/CASI accreditation. It’s an invigorating time in the KY Tech System of Schools.”

“Summer conference is an opportunity for all of us to incorporate major systemic, curriculum, technological, and training updates into our strategic plans. It’s a time to integrate new faces, reestablish old acquaintances and develop partnerships for multi-faceted agendas in moving CTE forward,” says OCTE Deputy Executive Director Lewis Carter. “It was a pleasure to see so many of our employees once again and get to know some of the new people who have joined our system. We all look forward to working together to strengthen CTE and the summer conference has helped us to springboard our energies to meet that goal.”



OCTE Exec. Director
David Billingsley

A variety of workshops and sessions were designed to offer participants the most up-to-date information and technology needed for success. The following represents a glimpse of some of the sessions and comments from OCTS personnel who attended:

2006 Career Trends Odyssey: Impact on CTE Programs

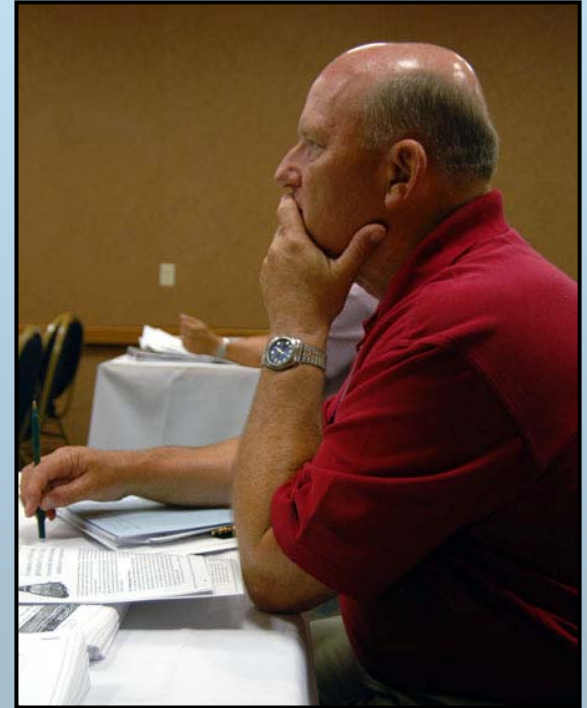
Presenter: Ron Crouch, director, The Kentucky State Data Center

This session addressed the question: Are we prepared for and do we understand the changes in education, careers, and lifestyles the future holds?

Ron Crouch



"Ron provided evidence, through data, that was provocative and thought provoking about Kentucky's future and some entertaining concepts to inspire our planning for that future," says Harrison Co. ATC Principal John Hodge. "His manner was entertaining while providing a serious look at Kentucky's remarkable place in the nation and world, and how we can position ourselves to take advantage of our people and resources."



**Harrison Co. ATC
Principal John Hodge**

Kentucky Tech Prep Update

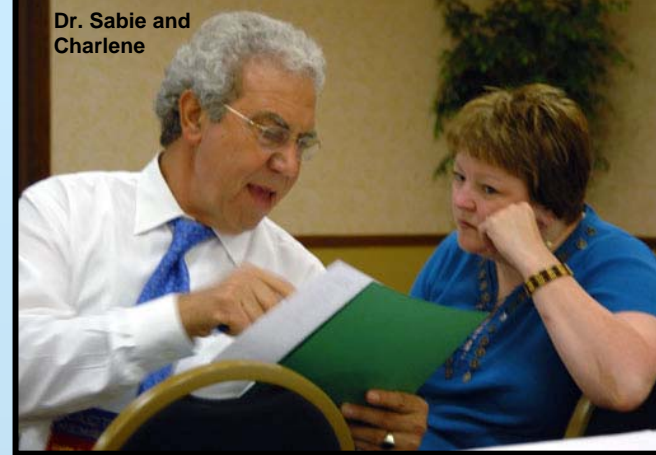
Presenters: Dr. Ahmed Sabie, KY Tech Prep State Director; Charlene Baxter and Karla Tipton.

“We were delighted to present during the KACTE summer conference. It gave us an opportunity to provide Tech Prep coordinators with an overview of the 16 Tech Prep workshops conducted throughout the state during the last two weeks of June,” says Dr. Sabie. “Other topics presented for discussion included Perkins Reauthorization, Tech Prep Grant Writing, Career Pathways and assessing how Tech Prep projects are implemented. During the 2006-07 school year, KY Tech Prep will fund 117 high schools, 53 ATC/locally operated technical schools, 7 universities and 15 KCTCS sites.”

“Conference was a great opportunity to rejuvenate myself for the upcoming school year. I was informed about the new initiatives, Kentucky Employability Certificate, SACS, Tech Prep and Teds reporting. I am excited about the new Tech Prep partnership with Bluegrass Community and Technical College because it will open new avenues of communication between our ATC and KCTCS,” says Hughes Jones-Harrodsburg ATC Principal Duane Flora.

“The KACTE Conference is known for the outstanding sessions, speakers and exhibits. Each year the program focuses on the hot topics in career and technical education. The Tech Prep session was informative. The new structure of fewer fiscal agents will be beneficial to our schools. We will have the opportunity to meet regionally. Our Tech Prep experts will be close to home and can provide more one-on-one assistance,” said Clark Co. ATC Principal Karen Bothun. “The ATC Principal’s meeting was a terrific way to end the conference. Listening to Todd Whitaker, author of *‘What Great Teachers Do Differently,’* provided all of us with that boost of motivation to start off the school year with enthusiasm. His session helped us to look at teaching and supervision with common sense.”

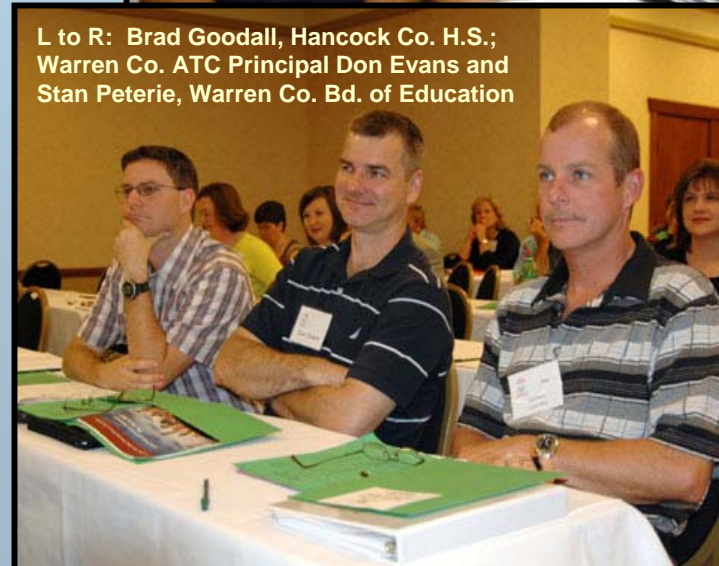
Dr. Sabie and
Charlene



Duane Flora and
Karen Bothun



L to R: Brad Goodall, Hancock Co. H.S.;
Warren Co. ATC Principal Don Evans and
Stan Peterie, Warren Co. Bd. of Education



Implementing the IGP for Students at the ATC

Presenters: John Hodge, Harrison Co. ATC Principal; Steve Myers, Harrison Co. ATC counselor; and Lynne Switzer, Harrison Co. HS business teacher

“Steve Myers, Harrison ATC counselor and Lynne Switzer, Harrison High School business teacher, introduced our participants to a practical method for inspiring our students to plan for their activities in high school and our center. I think the session helped all of us to see that the teacher is essential in the planning process and that our teachers will be instrumental in implementation of the on line Individual Learning Plan that becomes the standard this fall. I was happy that our solution to fulfilling the mandates of the IGP and ILP seemed informative and well received,” says Harrison Co. ATC Principal John Hodge.

“This workshop demonstrated the importance of the area technology center developing a true partnership with the local school district so that students have an opportunity to take technical courses and complete the requirements for a certificate,” says Letcher Co. ATC Principal Barbara Ison. “The tracking system presented during the workshop could be implemented by any ATC to help students with career planning.”

"This year's conference was the best I have attended. The presentations were outstanding and very helpful to me as I prepare to start a new year – especially since my school will undergo a SACS accreditation visit. I appreciate the time and effort our central office personnel has expended in the continuous improvement process,” says J.D. Patton

ATC Principal Ray Stanley. “I was also impressed with the presentation headed by John Hodge. The information he shared about the IGP implementation process, as it relates to academic requirements and how they are integrated into a student’s career objective, was too good not to use starting this year.”



L to R: Barbara Ison, Ray Stanley, and Patrick Currin. Standing: Steve Myers

**Grayson Wells
and Laura Arnold**



Implementing the IGP for Students at the ATC-cont.

“This was my first summer conference as an administrator. I was very impressed with the tons of information available in all the breakout sessions. I did find the IGP session very helpful. Like many ATCs in the system, our school struggles with IGPs. As a result of attending this session, I am sure we will implement many of the ideas presented during Mr. Hodge’s presentation,” says Russellville ATC Principal Grayson Wells. “My goal is to continually improve our school and the KY Tech district. It is very exciting and refreshing to think our system will soon be SACS accredited. This is a great accomplishment. We should stand proud, but remember this is just one step in the improvement process; there are and will be other needs to tackle.”

“As a new principal in the system, the sessions gave me insight into ways the area technology centers are working with local districts to provide a rigorous curriculum that relates to the real world. The whole summer conference was very informative and it's good that all the CTE entities are working together to build partnerships for our respective communities,” says Marion Co. ATC Principal Laura Arnold. “The KY Tech Principals’ sessions focused on the importance of continuous school improvement and the district’s goal of SACS accreditation.”

**Far right: Harrison Co. ATC Principal
John Hodge offers assistance to
conference participants.**



“What Great Teachers Do Differently” – Using Faculty Book Studies as Professional Development

Presenter: Fulton Co. ATC Principal Tom Pyron

Overview: The staff at Fulton Co. ATC has completed a study of the book, “*What Great Teachers Do Differently: 14 Things That Matter Most*,” by Todd Whitaker. The presentation discussed the applications of this book to CTE teachers and benefits of faculty book studies as a means of professional development.



“We had good success using book studies among our teachers at the ATC and in the local school district. If you choose a book that is user friendly and easy to glean information from immediately, teachers respond favorably,” says Fulton Co. ATC Principal Tom Pyron. “I think it’s important that teachers help lead each book study session because it keeps them committed and keeps the focus where it needs to be – how it’s used in the classroom.”

At left: Fulton Co. ATC Principal Tom Pyron discusses some of the qualities and practices that elevate teachers above the rest as relayed in Whitaker’s book, *What Great Teachers Do Differently: 14 Things That Matter Most*.

“What Great Teachers Do Differently” – continued



Photo: Belfry ATC Principal Annette Harris-Ward. In background: KY Tech Area Supervisor Linda Floyd.

“Not only did Tom Pyron provide an interesting perspective of how teachers and administrators enhanced their professional development through this type of activity, it’s clear that he and his faculty regard its value as motivational and educational.”



Photo above: Monroe Co. ATC Principal Lee Ann Wall listens intently to Pyron’s presentation.

“Mr. Pyron’s sharing of information on book readings with this staff fertilized the seeds of my thoughts and ideas about professional development needs and opportunities,” said Wall. “He motivated me to provide an opportunity for my staff to read the book entitled, *‘Fish,’* in an effort to make us all aware of our attitudes and how they impact other staff members and our students.”



OCTE Support Staff Various presenters – Topics of interest

“This is the fourth year that we have had this workshop. Every year we have a few more people attend. From what we’ve been told by the support staff, this year’s workshop was the best yet. We survey the secretaries and principals to make sure that we are covering what they need,” says OCTE Academic Consultant Debbie Seider. “For the past two years, administrative business office personnel have also been invited to attend and I believe they got as much out of the workshop as anyone! Hopefully, next year will be even better.”

“As a first time co-planner of the secretarial support staff session at summer conference, I was delighted to see and hear all the positive expressions and remarks from the secretaries,” says Vickie Staley, OCTE program

coordinator. “I feel it was the most beneficial session we have ever offered. All of the presenters presented on a level that everyone could participate in and enjoy at the same time. I feel the secretaries felt special because we listened to their requests and planned the session especially for them.”



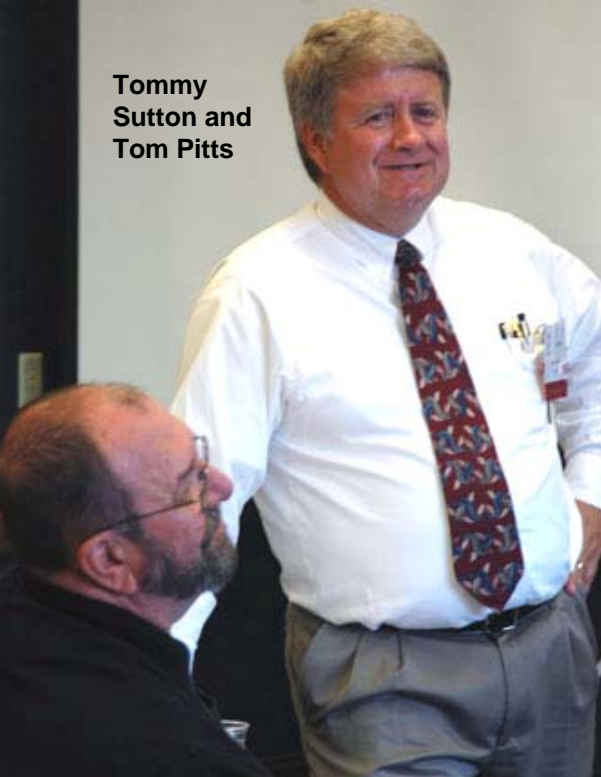
OCTE Academic Consultant Dale Winkler conducted a special presentation entitled, “Accuracy in Documents.”



“The session for support staff during summer conference was a wonderful experience. I truly enjoyed Dale Winkler’s presentation. It was both informative and interesting as were all the presenters,” says Bell Co. ATC Administrative Secretary Melonie Matthews. “The session for support staff is necessary because it is vital for proper operation of our schools.”

“I felt that the training sessions were very worthwhile. The subjects covered pertained to the many different facets of our jobs that we deal with on a daily basis,” said Jackson County ATC Administrative Secretary Angela Tincher.

Tommy
Sutton and
Tom Pitts



C.E. McCormick Electrical
Technology Instructor Kelly
McCormick.



"This year's conference was the best yet! The training was specific and aimed at the technical subject I teach. I benefited from the experience because construction program instructors were given an opportunity to get together to share ideas, develop camaraderie and reinforce best practices for the classroom," says McCormick.

ATC Electricity/HVAC Meeting

"Each year, it is my intention to provide our instructors with training seminars and educational sessions to increase their knowledge of state of the art advances. It is essential to provide information they can take directly to the classroom to increase student achievement," says OCTE Academic Consultant Tommy Sutton.

"I appreciate the hard work and dedication that Tommy Sutton has put in to bringing industry representatives and instructors together. It helps us to know what new technology is out there and what we can do to bring it into the classroom to help our students achieve higher-level skills," says JD Patton Electrical Technology Instructor Tom Pitts. "It is so hard for us to find the time to do the legwork. This conference provides us with an avenue to gain valuable knowledge and meet industry professionals who can offer advice and assistance for our respective programs."

"The conference was great again this year. The quality and dedication of the instructors is so meaningful and adds so much to its overall success," says Mason Co. ATC Electrical Technology Instructor David Collins (and the 2005 KY Tech Teacher of the Year). "During the year I find myself wanting answers to certain questions. Yes, I could get on the phone and call someone - which I sometimes do. But, varied opinions most always add more interest and most often a different view. I think sometimes that I gain as much knowledge by talking to other instructors at the conference as I do attending the many different training sessions. The conference gets me fired up and ready for the new school year to begin."



Photo, l to r: Letcher Co. ATC Electrical Technology Instructor Robert Looney; Mason Co. ATC Electrical Technology Instructor David Collins; and Lake Cumberland ATC Electrical Technology Instructor Joey Reeder.

Foreground, l to r: Vickie Rebholz and Sherry Lawson



Health Sciences – On the Move

Presenter: OCTE Academic Consultant Elizabeth Bullock -

“It is always exciting to meet with our teachers to share our goals, curriculum issues, program updates, and HOSA updates,” says Bullock. “My favorite summer program activity is having an opportunity for all of us to catch up on what has taken place over the year, meet our new instructors, and have a chance to enjoy quality time in a non-classroom setting. I personally like the sharing sessions among our teachers and how it builds a solid support system for our health sciences programs.”



“Summer conference is always a time to refresh oneself. I especially enjoyed the *Pharmacology* in service. Elaine Terry gave us so much useful information, not to mention three books to use as references. It was great,” says C.E. McCormick ATC Health Sciences Instructor Vickie Rebholz. It was also nice to see so many of my colleagues and catch up on the different approaches being used in the classroom.”

“The health sciences technical update training was very helpful,” says JD Patton Health Sciences Instructor Sherry Lawson. “This session was informative because we not only heard the most up to date information in the system, we had a great time sharing and gaining new ideas among teachers. Sometimes, it’s just good to have time to talk with each other to see what’s working in other classrooms.”

Teresa Napier



“I really enjoyed getting to be with the other health sciences instructors from across the state and the workshops I attended were very uplifting,” says Leslie Co. ATC Health Sciences Instructor Teresa Napier. “I came away with new ideas that I cannot wait to initiate in my classroom.”

